Trivandrum Water Supply Scheme.

137. **MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether estimates for the various items of work connected with the Trivandrum Water Supply Scheme have been completed; and

(*b*) if so, the estimated cost of the entire Scheme?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Detailed estimates are approaching completion.

(*b*) No precise figure can be stated until the estimates are completed.

Appointments in the Secretariat.

138. **MR. K. N. KESAVAN NAMPUTIRIPAD** (*Jenmies*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of new appointments made in the Secretariat during the last two years (1102 and 1103) and the number of fresh hands taken from other departments; and

(*b*) whether there was any special reason for taking such hands to the Secretariat from other departments and whether such appointments were made overlooking the claims of many acting hands in the Secretariat?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) 16 new acting appointments were made in the Secretariat during the years 1102 and 1103. No fresh hands were taken from other departments.

(*b*) This question does not arise in view of the answer to the second part of question (*a*).

Scheme re Minor Irrigation.

139. **MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI** (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have under consideration any scheme for placing minor irrigation under more efficient control;

(*b*) if so, what are the essential features of that scheme; and

(*c*) whether they will give the Legislative Council an opportunity to discuss the merits of the scheme?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) and (*c*) It is premature to say anything at this stage.

Need for a Bridge at Puvar.

140. **MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that there is a long-standing public demand for a bridge at Puvar across the Neyyar river; and

(*b*) whether they have considered the matter?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a* The question of the bridge was urged both in the Legislative Council and the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly.

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